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PROCEEDINGS AND PAPERS.

AT the GENERAL MEETING, held in the apartments of the Association, William-street, Kilkenny, on Wednesday, April the 15th (by adjournment from the 1st), 1868,

J. H. BRACKEN, Esq., C. I., in the Chair,

The following new Members were elected :—

The Rev. Humphrey Lloyd, D. D., Provost of Trinity College, Dublin ; the Rev. J. W. Hardman, LL. D., Blockley-court, near Bristol ; Thomas Drew, Esq., Architect, Dublin ; Joseph Nolan, Esq., Cong, county Mayo, and Joseph Duggan, Esq., M. R. C. S., Turloughmore, Athenry : proposed by the Rev. J. Graves.

T. Anslie Lunham, Esq., Ardfallen, Cork ; Frederick Wakeman, Esq., Enniskillen, and William H. Patterson, Esq., Dundela, Strandtown, Belfast : proposed by R. Day, Jun., Esq.

Rev. A. Macbride, North Bute, Rothsay, N. B. : proposed by Mr. John O'Daly.

John Hollwey, Esq., C. E., Prospect House, Kilkenny, and William J. Bayly, Esq., 5, Henrietta-street, Dublin : proposed by Mr. Prim.

Michael Kelly, Esq., J. P., Dundalk, and George Putland, Esq., Bray Head : proposed by the Rev. G. H. Reade.

Edward Rossborough Floyd, Esq., A. B., L. R. C. S. I., Edgeworthstown : proposed by G. V. Du Noyer, Esq.

Edward Byrne, Esq., Hollyville, Upper Rathmines, Dublin : proposed by Thomas O'Gorman, Esq.

William C. Seymour, jun., Esq., Willmount, Queenstown : proposed by George A. Atkinson, Esq.

Rev. William Kilbride, Aran Island, Galway : proposed by G. H. Kinahan, Esq.

James Bell, Esq., C. E., Malahide, county Dublin ; proposed by Thomas Drew, Esq.

George Henry Kinahan, Esq., Geological Survey of Ire-

land, Recess, Connemara, was elected Honorary Provincial Secretary for Connaught.

C. D. Purdon, Esq., M. D., was elected Honorary Local Secretary for Belfast.

The Rev. Samuel Hayman was elected Honorary Local Secretary for Doneraile, county Cork.

Maurice Lenihan, Esq., was elected Honorary Local Secretary for Limerick.

The Rev. J. Graves, Honorary Secretary, laid before the Meeting the sheets of the Association's "Journal" for January, 1868—commencing the third series—which he said would be in the hands of the Members in a few days. The October Number for 1866 had been recently issued; and the "Journal" for 1867 would be got out with as little delay as possible, and would be issued simultaneously with the third series now commenced. It had been arranged that 1867 should form a volume in itself, as it would contain double the ordinary amount of matter, in order to conclude several papers which had been running through that Series, and dispose of all matter which had been hitherto brought before the Meetings. By this arrangement he hoped that all arrears of the "Journal" would soon be made good, and he trusted that those Members who were in arrear with their subscriptions would also clear off old scores.

The Auditors brought up the Treasurer's Account for 1866,¹ as follows:—

CHARGE.

1866.	£	s.	d.
Jan. 1. To balance in Treasurer's hands,	196	7	8½
Dec. 31. Annual Subscriptions, including those to Illustration Fund,	204	11	6
To Life Composition,	5	0	0
,, One year's Rent of land at Jerpoint,	1	0	0
,, Cash received for "Journal" sold to Members,	1	11	0
,, Donation from the most Hon. the Marquis of Kildare, towards printing Kildare Rental,	10	0	0
,, " from Daniel Mac Carthy, Esq., towards printing the Life and Letters of Florence Mac Carthy,	2	14	6
,, " from Francis Wright, Esq., for engraving Saxon coin,	0	12	6
	£	421	17 2½

¹ By a typographical error these accounts were referred to the year 1865, at p. 5, *supra*.

DISCHARGE.

1866.

		£	s.	d.
Dec. 31. By Postage of "Journal,"	13	4	10	
" of circulars and correspondence,	11	9	1	
" Illustrations for "Journal,"	32	0	0	
" Printing, paper, &c., of "Journal" for January, April, and July, 1866,	59	10	5	
" General printing and stationery,	6	11	3	
" Commission to Dublin collector,	0	13	3	
" Sundry expenses,	3	7	6	
" Carriage of parcels,	0	6	4	
" Books purchased, including early volumes of "Journal,"	14	8	4	
" Rent and caretaker of Jerpoint Abbey,	2	0	0	
" Rent and Insurance of Museum,	14	12	0	
" Transcribing original documents,	3	8	6	
" Balance in Treasurer's hands,	260	5	8½	
		£	421	17
				2½

We have examined the Account, with Vouchers, and have found them correct, and that there is a balance of £260 5s. 8½d. in the hands of the Treasurer.

P. A. AYLWARD,
J. G. ROBERTSON, } *Auditors.*

The following presentations were received, and thanks voted to the donors :—

"Lough Corrib, its Shores and Islands ; with Notices of Lough Mask," by Sir William R. Wilde, M. D., Dublin, 1867: presented by the Author.

"Researches in the South of Ireland," by T. Crofton Croker, Esq., London, 1824 ; "A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland," by Samuel Lewis, 2 vols., London, 1837 ; "Pacata Hibernia," by Thomas Stafford, London, 1633 ; "Anthologia Hibernica," 4 vols., Dublin, 1793-4 ; "The Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides," by James Bothwell, Esq., London, 1786 ; "A Philosophical Survey of the South of Ireland," by John Watkinson, M.D., London, 1777 ; "The Irish Penny Magazine," Dublin, 1833 ; "The Dublin Penny Journal," 4 vols., Dublin, 1832-6 (1st vol. in duplicate) ; "Antiquities of Ireland," by Edward Ledwich, LL. D., Dublin, 1803 ; "The History of the Execrable Irish Rebellion," London, 1680 ; "The History of the Life and Reign of William-Henry, Prince of Nassau and Orange, Stadtholder of the United Provinces, King of England, Scotland, France, and

Ireland, &c.,” by Walter Harris, Esq., Dublin, 1749 ; “An Account of Ireland, Statistical and Political,” by Edward Wakefield, 2 vols., London, 1812 ; “Evidence taken before Her Majesty’s Commissioners of Inquiry into the state of the Law and Practice in respect to the occupation of Land in Ireland,” Part 3, Dublin, 1845 ; and “Irish Poems and Histories,” MS. : presented by S. C. Hall, Esq.

Mr. Graves said, that whilst there were several very interesting and valuable works included in this presentation, and for which they were deeply indebted to Mr. Hall, he would allude at present to but one of them—the volume of Irish MSS. ; he had submitted it to a competent Irish scholar, and hoped to lay a full account of it before the Members at a subsequent meeting.

Two ancient silver coins found some time ago in taking down a portion of the wall of the old Castle of Ferns ; one was a groat of King Edward IV., of England ; the other a dollar of King John IV., of Portugal : presented by J. E. Mayler, Esq.

A very good specimen of the primæval flint arrowheads which are found so frequently in the northern part of the county Antrim. The donor had found it when recently in that, his native district, on leave of absence : presented by Constable David Moore.

Three very interesting photographic views of the Cathedral of St. Canice—two interior and an exterior view of the west end : presented by T. R. Lane, Esq.

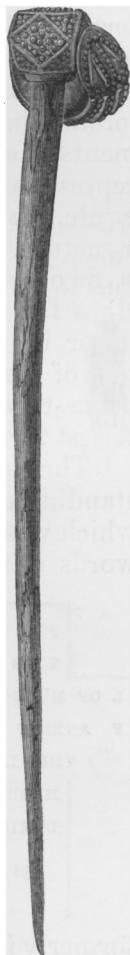
A drawing of a Roman coin—a brass of Gallienus in very perfect preservation, found last summer at the great Pagan cemetery of “Brugh na Boinne,” near Drogheda. The donor pointed to the fact of Sir William Wilde having stated that a coin of Valentinian and one of Theodosius, found in the same locality some years ago, gave ground for interesting speculation in connexion with a possibility of an ancient rifling of the cemetery by the Romans : presented by the Rev. G. H. Reade.

Mr. Graves reported a purchase which he had made for the Museum. He had given 10s. on behalf of the Association, for an ancient bronze pin, with moveable ring-head, found by a person whilst engaged in digging a grave in the churchyard of Kilree not far from the round tower. The

pin, although of rather rare ornamentation on the ring, was of a very usual form, as will be seen by the accompanying engraving ; but he deemed it proper to purchase it for the Museum, as being of interest from the locality in which it had been found. The finder was a workman in the employment of W. Phelan, Esq., Kellsgrange ; and that gentleman's nephew, Mr. Butler, had very commendably communicated to him (Mr. Graves) the fact of its having been discovered, in order that it might not be lost to the Society, in case they wished to obtain it. It was much to be desired that Mr. Butler's example in this respect should be generally followed, as thus ancient remains, often of comparatively little interest except from the place of their discovery, would be prevented from being sent out of the locality which gave the interest to them : and the finders, too, would be benefited, as they were likely to have much better terms from this Association than from the itinerant pedlars, or even the jewel-lers in the neighbouring towns, to whom, otherwise, such matters would be sold.

Mr. Kinahan commenced his official connexion with the Association, as Honorary Provincial Secretary for Connaught, by drawing attention—with the hope of thereby having something done for its preservation—to the state of St. M'Dara's Church, on "Illaun M'Dara." When Petrie visited it, previous to 1845, the church had a stone roof, quite entire. The roof was now gone ; and for the want of some little repairs the walls of the structure would be soon a complete mass of ruin, as the sides seemed ready to fall out. There were also pieces of beautiful old crosses which were being knocked about and likely to be entirely destroyed, which might be put together and preserved at a very slight expense. The property belonged to "The Law Life Assurance Society."

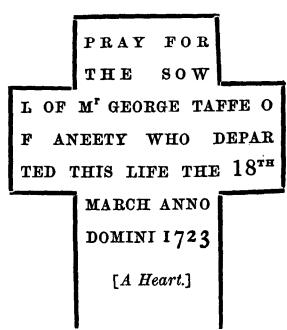
It was determined to ask Mr. Kinahan to make a more detailed report of the state of this ancient church, with the



view of taking such steps as might be deemed advisable for its better preservation.

Mr. Williams, Dungarvan, county Waterford, reported that Mr. Quealy, the owner of the farm on which the interesting Ogham chamber had been discovered at Drumloghan, as fully described by him (Mr. Williams) at a former meeting of the Society, had recently ploughed the field adjoining the cave, and turned up an iron instrument and fragments of a quern. Mr. Williams also reported that he had represented to Mrs. Bernal Osborne, the proprietor of the estate, the importance of having steps taken to preserve the structure, and that lady, accompanied by Lord Lismore and some other friends, had paid it a visit, and had given directions for the erection of a substantial stone house over it for its protection, whilst at the same time the skeleton of the chamber would be left exposed as it stands at present; so that all future visitors can examine it with the fullest facility.

The Rev. G. H. Reade sent a drawing of a wayside cross, standing at the road side between Knockbridge and Louth, which was curious for the strange way in which some of the words of the inscription had been divided, as follows:—

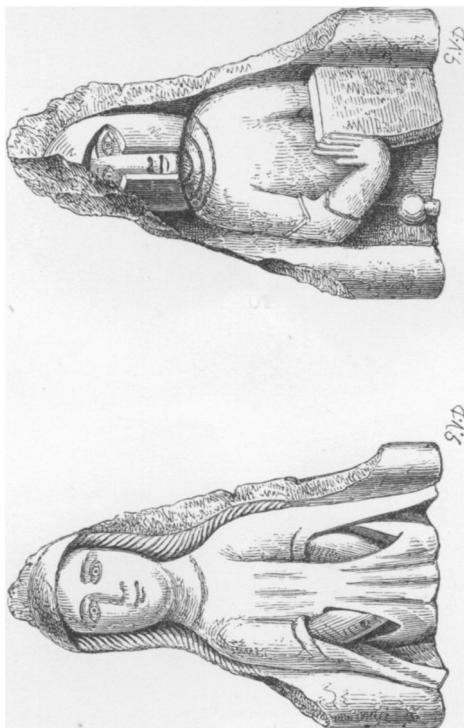


The cross was of hard sandstone, and beneath the inscription, on the stem, was a representation of a human heart. It was said that the person to whose memory it was erected had been murdered.

The Rev. James Graves laid before the meeting a drawing which he had recently made of an interesting piece of sculpture that had

formerly formed a portion of the intercolumniations of the cloisters of Jerpoint Abbey, and which is accurately reproduced in the plate which faces the next page. The fragment of sculpture in question was at present placed as a "head-stone" to a grave in the chapel yard at Thomastown. The ancient altar-stone of Jerpoint Abbey, and numerous portions of the intercolumniation of the cloisters, had been removed early in the present century to the Roman Catholic

SCULPTURED FIGURES, FROM THE CLOISTERS, JERPOINT ABBEY.



place of worship at Thomastown. The altar-stone was still in the old chapel, and pieces of the cloister sculptures were built into it, and marked several of the graves in the chapel yard. Amongst the latter, the most interesting was the subject of his drawing. On either side was carved a figure, one of a knight, the other of a lady, placed back to back. The first was represented in armour, the helmet being particularly remarkable from the peculiar character of the cheek-plates and aperture for the eyes. The knight carried a small heater-shaped shield on his left arm, and the haft of his dagger, suspended on the right side, was just apparent, the figure being broken away from the thighs. The female figure was clothed in a loose dress, with long sleeves, having pockets in the sides, into which her hands were thrust. The head was covered with a plain kerchief, and the hair was in long plaits. He had submitted the drawing to Mr. Albert Way, the recognized authority in such matters, and had received the following letter from that gentleman, who at the time of writing it, was from home:—

“This sculpture is very curious, no doubt representing a benefactor to the fabric, and his wife. Do you know the approximate date of the cloisters of Jerpoint Abbey? The mouldings or forms of arch ought to fix this. I have no books here, and will not venture on fixing a period by the costume alone, for your Irish examples, in armour especially, are often anomalous, and not to be brought down to our established rules. We find the loose ungirded dress of ladies with pocket-holes at the sides in this fashion about the time of Edward III.; the head-dress was usually more enriched. This simple kerchief thrown over the head is, with us, a fashion of later date. The antique type of headpiece on the male figure, with cheeks and ocularia, is very uncommon; but I think I could find a mediæval example if I had my books at hand; it seems to be a reproduction of a classical fashion, possibly Greek. It is doubtful whether the circles on the neck may represent plates, and whether the elbow and forearm are covered by plate. I should, very much at a haphazard, say fourteenth century—probably before 1350. I fancy that in Ireland old armour was retained after new fashions had become established with us. Here is no sign of mail, unless the circles on the neck are intended for rows of mail, as is possible. The shield is apparently the small defence of the period that I have named. I should like to know *your* date of the architecture.”

Mr. Graves continued to remark, that the cloisters at Jerpoint were destroyed, but from fragments of the sculptures that had belonged to them, which were remaining in great numbers, there was no doubt that Mr. Way was right in assigning the armour and dress of the figures to the fourteenth century. The intercolumniations consisted of, each, two shafts connected by solid stone; in the space be-

tween the shafts, as in the case of the fragment now engraved, many curious sculptures were carved, some which served as responds, being carved only on one side. It was probable, therefore, that each ope of the cloister arcades was filled by three sub-arches with a solid pier between, as in the case of the still existing cloisters of Beective Abbey, county Meath. The bases and caps of the intercolumniations were carved with fourteenth century foliage, and on one of them was sculptured a squirrel, which, as that animal is not found in Ireland, would serve to show that some of the sculptures were the work of Englishmen.

Mr. Prim observed that there had formerly been in Thomastown chapel yard, amongst the fragments brought thither from Jerpoint Abbey, a sculpture apparently representing St. Michael, which struck him, when he saw it, as being particularly bold and vigorous in the execution. When he last visited the place, in company with Mr. Graves, on the occasion of his making the drawing now before the meeting, he could not find this figure of St. Michael. He hoped that it might yet be found, as fragments of this kind frequently became grown over by the churchyard sward, and were sometimes brought to light again in digging new graves.

THE ROUND TOWER AND CHURCH OF DYSERT, COUNTY OF LIMERICK.

BY RICHARD ROLT BRASH, M. R. I. A.

THE Round Tower and Church of Carrigeen are situated in the townland of Carrigeen, in the parish of Dysert, barony of Coshma, and county of Limerick, and about one and a quarter mile from the small town of Croom, a station on the Charleville and Limerick railway. The buildings stand in a green field of little or no elevation, about a quarter of a mile from the main road.

THE ROUND TOWER.—The round tower stands at the north side of the church, from the wall of which it is distant ten feet. It presents an appearance of almost complete symmetry and proportion, the entasis, or batter, being most carefully designed and worked out. Some considerable portion of the upper part is wanting—at least one complete